



ALABAMA WING CIVIL AIR PATROL

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2005

**Col John Tilton
Commander**

**Lt Col Mike Oakman
Vice-Commander**

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Commander's Notes

Darrell McCalla is moving from
Director of Communications to
Homeland Defense Director. Rick

Hasha is moving up to Director of
Communications and Martis Howell is
Assistant Communications Officer. Jim
Smiley will be in charge of licenses and
call signs.

We need a Personnel Director if anyone
is interested, please contact Mike
Oakman or Glen Rush.

The wing conference will be on the
19th of March in Birmingham this year. It
is a new format and will be one day
only. This will not tie up the entire
weekend and allow those members who
live a great distance away to do it in one
over night. There will be no awards
dinner but we will have a social Friday
night and all are invited.

Please plan to attend; I have been
informed that Maj. Gen. Wheless will be
attending. If you haven't met the
National Commander of CAP, this is
your chance. He is very friendly and
usually does not bite. I hope to see you
there.

Information is on the web site and registration is requested so we can get an idea on the numbers.

If you haven't attended a wing conference, this is your opportunity.

Promotions reminders When filling out paperwork for promotions, the information must be on MIMS. If you do not have CPP, Level 1 or a specialty on MIMS, the paperwork will be returned. We check MIMS and try to call and have you update the data, but this takes a great deal of time and some still do not comply. I hate to return paperwork, but I can't have a box of forms that I have to keep rechecking. Do it right the first time and the process will work. Get MIMS current.

Cadet encampment is planned for 11 thru 19 June. Get ready for a great time. Seniors, try to plan to help.

The Wing Director of Aerospace Education is Deborah Dorning. Her email is tiggerbsmom@yahoo.com. Commanders, please send her the name and contact information for your AE person.

*Col John Tilton
Commander*

Check Ride Policy/Procedure

From: Mathis Randall R Lt Col CAP-USA/XO

Subject: RE: Check Ride Policy/Procedure—Exception to Policy

1. First, Mission Transport Pilots that do not have a commercial rating and a class II medical are not eligible for Air Force Assigned Mission Status (AFAMS) training unless they are

enrolled in SAR/DR mission pilot, observer, or scanner training. They may not fly as TMP for training in AFAMS period. I emphasize training as they are eligible to participate in actual mission as permitted by the current CAPR 60-3.

2. Reimbursing CAP members for Form 5 and Form 91 evaluations is an issue of Air Force and CAP policy, CAPRs and the wing commander's policy on reimbursing members for evaluations. The 8 Jun 2004 CAP-USA/XO and CAP/DO Policy Letter, Subject: Air Force and Corporate Mission Status Changes, is the SAF/GC approved interim guidance and is mostly about Air Force Assigned Mission Status (AFAMS) not funding. The NELR/DO has been upholding the CAP/DO CAP-USA/XO March 2003 policy letter on Check Ride Reimbursement Policy (See Attachment). Lt Col O'Connell pointed out that this policy letter specifically states the individual must be current and qualified or in upgrade training in a mission specialty area to be eligible for reimbursement. It does not make allowance for an individual that has gone none current or unqualified for good reason i.e. illness, weather, work requirements etc. The NELR DO and CC suggested a change to policy to make allowances for these circumstances.

3. The Jun 2004 interim guidance does allow for training and evaluation of non-qualified member so long as they are properly enrolled in a related specialty track training program. A member that has been previously qualified as a SAR/DR/CD mission pilot is eligible for training and evaluation in AFAMS. However, the instructor or evaluator providing the training or evaluation must

be current and qualified in the aircraft and MUST be the PIC. An evaluator pilot must be able to assume control of the aircraft if the examinee is unable to safely operate the aircraft. This is true for Form 5 or Form 91 evaluations.

4. I check with John Salvador and the previous CAP-USAF/XO and they did not intend to preclude a CAP pilot who went non-current or unqualified for reasons beyond their control such as extended periods of bad weather, extended illness etc.

5. This is a coordinated CAP-USAF/XO and CAP/DO waiver to the policy letter dated 14 March 2003. TMPs (with a commercial rating and a class II medical) and SAR/DR/CD mission pilots that have gone none current or unqualified for 6 months or less are eligible to be reimbursed for the requisite Form 5 or Form 91 evaluation conducted IAW the Jun 2004 interim guidance mentioned above. Members that exceed 6-month must accomplish at least one training sorties and receive the recommendation of an instructor prior to a requalification evaluation. All reimbursements for evaluations or requalification evaluations will be done at the discretion of the CAP WG or RG/CC and approved by the LR/CC or DO. The WG or RG/CC and LR/CC or DO must evaluate the circumstances involved in prior to committing wing and AF recourses to requalify or retrain an individual. Approving authorities will have positive answers to the following question prior to approving reimbursement for the situations

listed above be it 6-months or less or greater than 6-months.

§ Has the individual's past performance and participation has been good?

§ Will they be available to contribute to the unit's mission in the near future?

§ Overall, is it in the best interest of the wing and its mission?

6. This information will be incorporated in the next change to the applicable regulations and instructions.

*Lt Col Randall Mathis
HQ CAP-USAF/XO*



Capt Jimmy Mitchell and Lt Col Johnny Ward plan their flight.

Smile, Your Picture Is Going on Your Pilot License

With passage of the National Intelligence Reform Act of 2004, the FAA is required to begin issuing improved pilot certificates within a year.

The certificates must be resistant to tampering and counterfeiting, include a photo of the pilot and possibly store biometric information. The bill does not require pilots to immediately replace existing certificates with new photo certificates. Most likely, pilots would get a photo license when they add a new rating or certificate, change their address or request a certificate to replace a lost or damaged one. Also under the new law, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) will be required to check the names of potential air-charter customers against government terrorist watch lists if an operator requests it. The new law mandates that the TSA establish a system whereby air-charter operators with aircraft weighing more than 12,500 pounds mtow can contact the TSA with the names of charter passengers to be screened against no-fly lists. The operator has the right to refuse service to any potential customer whose name shows up on a watch list

*Lt Col Ernie Bilotto
Narco-Counterterrorism Coordinator
CAP - USAF Aux*

5M + 1C = CAP Career

For the up-coming year of 2005 we as members need to look at recruiting and retention with new priorities and increased enthusiasm. I feel strongly in recommending a thinking of out-of-the-box approach. CAP members need to re-arrange their way of presenting CAP to a possible recruit and with absolute purpose in retaining any and all current members.

I would like to introduce each member to "5M + 1C = CAP Career". These are 6 words that appear to balance out the recruitment and retention of our CAP career. These words should help each of us describe the purpose, the insights, and those things that are visible and invisible in the career of a CAP member.

Marketing is a powerful word. I see it has an opportunity to introduce CAP to a perspective member as an opportunity to give of themselves to their communities, both locally and statewide. To provide services to their neighbor, to their fellow man or woman, and to a community of pilots who are there for one purpose and that is to serve. I know you are asking yourselves how does this word fit into retaining individuals. Each of us must look at this as our opportunity to sale, sale again, and resale how each member has specific roles in providing a service of giving themselves. Marketing is a task and must be made continuously to those who are our customer base. Yes, our member is a customer base within our organization. Let's not forget that. You must market the member back to their own civilian organizations to whom they work for. And let's not forget their family members.

Membership is worth noting, that to having a career in CAP, a member must trust in those that are leading the organization. The CAP Missions are: Aerospace, Cadet Programs, Emergency Services, with other like missions such as our Counter Drug, Home Land Security, and FEMA. It should be interjected and demonstrated to new recruits as well as members that attending meetings, training, practice missions and actual missions is a must and must be done regularly.

Maturity is a member's personal growth within the CAP organization. Each of us should take the opportunity at the beginning of each year to set personal growth goals. Example: "I will grow in my service skill during the coming year through personal studies, completing criteria tasking for my service area, and the actual participation in CAP activities leading to my up-grading within my service skills". It's rather simple. If you have selected to enter into Emergency Service (ES), and want to be an Incident Commander (IC), then find that career path in ES to achieve this, then study, train, and test in each career until you fulfill your goal of IC.

*Michael A. Oakman Lt. Col., CAP
Alabama Wing Vice-Commander*

Communications

I just received notice that all of our repeaters were approved today. What this means is that CAP-USAF will use USAF money to replace all Alabama Wing repeaters with new narrow band repeaters to include feedline, couplings and antenna for each site. I also understand that they will pay for labor to pull the feedline and replace the antenna.

I do not know the monetary value of this but it is in the tens of thousands of dollars of equipment and services that we are to receive out of the \$5.8 million funding for this purpose from USAF.

This is a milestone for the communications program and is the beginning of the transition to full narrow band communications.

The equipment is planned to be staged in the field in late 2006 to early 2007 with installation to be in 2007 before our deadline of 31 December 2007.

Lt. Col Rick Hasha

Recruiting and Retention

Commanders and members, I am appealing to those persons who would like to become recruiters in the squadron of this wing. Names are needed from each squadron, I have two so far, until I have enough personnel for this specialty, we will be expecting the commanding officers to fill the role. We are hoping to put on an all out blitz during February to increase our numbers in the wing, more details will be forth coming shortly. Let us make this our best year for increase in members.

Lt. Col. Al Jackson



Autauga-Elmore Cadet Squadron

Millbrook AL— 4 December 2004.

The Autauga-Elmore Cadet Squadron marched in the Millbrook Christmas parade. The squadron was led by its color guard.

11 December 2004 — An intensive training course was given to seven new cadets of the Autauga – Elmore Cadet Squadron. It was a team effort by senior cadets and senior members. By the end of the day seven cadets took and passed the Curry exam.

Prattville AL— 20 December 2004.

The Autauga-Elmore Cadet squadron held a Christmas party at Ryan's Restaurant in Prattville. To begin the

festivities Cadets Quinn, Lamberth, Bringhurst, Browning, Churchwell, Epstein, and Godfrey were awarded their Curry cutouts and ribbons. After the dinner the squadron played "Dirty Santa". Many gifts were given and stolen during the party.



Cadets of the Autauga-Elmore Cadet Squadron preparing to march in the Millbrook Christmas parade.

Maxwell Composite Squadron

To paraphrase the famous John Facenda, the voice of NFL Films, "On the frozen tundra of Maxwell Field, Cadet SRA Cihak took to the pavement last Saturday (29th Jan. 05) in the AWC Fit to Fight 5K. With the weather fit for neither man or beast he ran a respectable 25:20 winning 1st in his age group!"



Cadet SRA Cihak

Emergency Services

Sunday afternoon I received a request for immediate assistance from Coast Guard District 8 Command Center in New Orleans. They had received a Mayday call from a catamaran which had capsized somewhere near the Pensacola coast. The Coast Guard had a Falcon jet searching the waters and asked us for assistance checking the more inland waterways and the coastline. Additionally they were having difficulty getting a bearing on a 121.5 beacon signal in the same area. I alerted both the Mobile and Baldwin County Squadrons and told them to get an aircrew ready. I then called AFRCC and got additional SRSAT info and a mission number from the shift supervisor. By that time both crews were ready to go and I dispatched the Mobile aircraft to fly the coastline from Mobile Bay to Pensacola and instructed the Baldwin County aircraft to search for the DF and made sure both aircraft knew to stay in touch with each other. The Baldwin County aircraft crew was David Spivey and Jim Becker and the Mobile aircraft crew was Don Sanders and Steven Howard. Ten minutes after departure from Jack Edward Airport the Baldwin County crew started hearing the ELT signal and tracked it to a private grass strip. The winds were very gusty and the ground soft and since it was determined that it was a non-distress situation they called Mike Medinski to act as ground crew and waited in the air to direct him to the airport to silence the ELT. In the meantime the Coast Guard located the catamaran and was able to get everyone safely back on shore. The

Mobile aircraft finished their assigned sortie and returned to base. From the time I received the call to the time everyone was home was less than four hours. Thanks to both these squadrons and the members involved for a job well done.

Lt Col Dennis Flowers

New Commanders

I am pleased to announce the following selections;

Captain Larry Bunn as Commander of Birmingham Composite Squadron 34

1st LT Jim Smiley as Commander of Bessemer Composite Squadron 87.

Lt Col Walter Williams, Vice commander of Bessemer Composite Squadron 87.

Please congratulate these individuals and give them all of your support.

*John Tilton COL. CAP
Commander*

30 Oct 2004 -- Prattville, AL

The Autauga-Elmore Cadet Squadron had a formal cadet change of command ceremony at Ryan's restaurant in Prattville. The outgoing cadet commander, C/Capt. Robert Byford handed over the squadron guidon to C/LtCol Keith Conway the new cadet commander. Byford led the cadets in earning several Ground Team badges, winning a wing cadet competition, and Squadron of Merit for 2004. Cadet Byford will become cadet advisor to the squadron commander.

LtCol Ed Wilson

DCC Autauga-Elmore Cadet Sq.



Thumbs up for their first glider flight. Front row: Cadets Ennis, Holder, Eaton and Jackson. Back row: SM Jackson, and Cadets Hodgkins, Tindol and Toney. Cadets and SM are from **the Maxwell Composite Squadron**

Christmas Parade in Clanton

Cadets from Chilton County Composite squadron celebrated the holidays with many activities during the months of November and December. In November, they were part of Veterans' Day programs at Clanton Middle School and with the Clanton, Alabama, combined Veterans Organizations at the American Legions Post. The color guard and marching unit was also present at **three** Christmas Parades: Clanton, Jemison, and Thorsby, Alabama. These cadets represent their squadron and our wing in an outstanding manner. Congratulations on a job well done.



(left to right) C/msgts Matthew Dennis, Cody Greer, Tyler Kirkpatrick, Andy Cannon, Christopher Ewing on 10 December 2004.

Aerospace Education

I thought you would like to see how each wing has done this past year in recruiting and retaining Aerospace Education Members (AEMs). Compared to the other regions, SER is number 1. SWR is second with a total membership of 240. As you can see from difference in the numbers between first and second place, the SER is doing a great job.

Southeast Region

AL	122	(102)+20
FL	080	(044)+36
GA	083	(029)+44
MS	012	(019)-7
PR	007	(019)-12
TN	191	(097)+94
Total:	495	(310)+185

Kathy Baucum
Aerospace Education Program Manager
Civil Air Patrol



SER-AL-087 has a new building

The Bessemer Squadron is celebrating the addition of a new building at the Bessemer Airport (EKY). The squadron has been working to put the finishing touches on the inside in order to make it better suited for its role in upcoming missions. The building has meeting rooms for both Senior and Cadet members, as well as a kitchen, and two dedicated communication towers. Plans are already underway to add a half-hangar to the building to house the squadron's C172. The squadron's nearly 30 active cadets are already using the building for their weekly meetings.



Cadets and senior members in front of a UH-1 Huey helicopter.

Civil Air Patrol cadets to fly in UH-1 “Huey” helicopters as part of aerospace education

A military orientation flight on this aircraft took place December 20, 2004. Cadets and SM are from **Maxwell Composite Squadron and Autauga/Elmore squadron MAXWELL AFB, Ala.** – On December 20, 2004, Civil Air Patrol (CAP) cadets from Maxwell Composite Squadron will be undertaking an orientation with Air Force helicopter instructor pilots from the 23d Flying Training Squadron (FTS) at Ft. Rucker, Ala. The instructors will hold a briefing for the cadets similar to one they would give to an Air Force student pilot. The briefing is a forum covering safety issues and answering any questions cadets may have about Air Force helicopter flying. It also gives the instructors an opportunity to give any specific instructions that will enhance the cadets' learning experience. After the briefing, the cadets will have a chance to take flight in a UH-1 "Huey" helicopter.

The 23d FTS trains future USAF helicopter pilots in the "Huey" helicopter. The 23 FTS conducts Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training-Helicopter and is the Air Force's primary source of helicopter pilots for special operations, combat search and rescue, missile support and distinguished visitor airlift missions.

The CAP Cadet Program affords our youth with many opportunities to develop leadership skills through an aerospace program, including the opportunity to fly light airplanes and gliders. The minimum age to join as a cadet is 12 years old, with the

maximum age to join being 18. Cadets can remain

*Lt. Luis E. Enriquez, CAP
Public Affairs Officer
Maxwell Composite Squadron*

Shelby County Recruiting Drive

One of the best ways to recruit is by having a display at a local aviation event. This may be an Air Show or airport Open House, or even a local flyin. Recently we have done this. On September 25-26th the Birmingham Aero Club sponsored Wings & Wheels Air Show at the Shelby County Airport. Several local CAP units volunteered to help at the Air Show selling tickets, helping move aircraft, crowd control, and even help out in concessions.

The Shelby County Flight set up a CAP display featuring the unit's Maule and L-23 glider. CAP members rotated working with the Aero Club, working in the recruiting booth with plenty of time to see the Air Show and look at the displays. Helping out were Senior Members and/or Cadets from Bessemer, Springville, Squadron 90, Chilton County and Shelby County Flight. SM and Cadet brochures were passed out listing all of the local CAP units and contacts.

On October 1-3rd the EAA Southeast Region Fly-In was held at the Evergreen, AL airport. The Maule and a table top display demonstrated CAP capabilities in the state. CAP volunteers directed traffic and provided flight line assistance with parking aircraft. Units participating were Tuscaloosa, Montgomery and Shelby County Flight.



Wings & Wheels Air Show



Lt Col Johnny Ward and Senator Hank Erwin

Wings and Wheels Air Show was September 25-26th. The Maule and the L-23 glider were used in the recruiting booth. Alabama State Senator Hank Erwin of Montevallo receives his personal CAP shirt from Lt Col Johnny Ward. Senator Erwin is a member of the Legislative Squadron and the Shelby County Flight. The presentation was made at Air Show at the Shelby County Airport in front of the CAP display.



Dates from Emergency Services:

These dates are subject to change. Updates will be sent from Lt Col Dennis Flowers as necessary.

Feb 26 th	Tuscaloosa
Mar 12 th	Bessemer (with Staff Call)
Mar 18-19 th	Wing Conference (with CAC and Commander's Call)
April 23 rd	Pell City
May 21 st -22 nd	To Be Arranged
June 23 rd	Gulf Shores
July 23 rd	Tuscaloosa (eval practice)
Aug 6 th	Tuscaloosa (eval)
Sept 17 th	Air Show
Sept 24 th	Shelby County

Public Affairs

A newsletter is the best way to communicate what is going on in our flights, squadrons, and wing. If your unit has a newsletter, please send me a copy either by email or US Mail. When you send an article to CAP News, or to your local newspaper, I would like you to send me a courtesy copy. If it's printed, send me a clipping from the paper with the date that it was printed.

The unit PAO or commander can get the news out about your squadron. Your activities, your celebrations, and your accomplishments can all be news. If I can help you in any way, please let me know. I may not know the answers to all the questions, but I most certainly will attempt to find out answers for you.

Each PAO or unit can submit articles for publication. If you want me to forward the article, please send it to me. Pictures need to be sent separately. National CAP News has a forty-five day deadline—so send your articles as soon as you can. After the deadline has passed, they are not going to be published. News must be

current. If you need the handout on sending articles and pictures to CAP NEWS, let me know I will get you a copy.

This is your newsletter. I just put the pieces together. Send me information as it happens and I will organize for the wing.

pmitcham@sprintmail.com

or

P H Mitcham, 1919 McDowling Drive,
Huntsville, AL 35803

I regret to inform you that **LT Steven Dempsey**, Redstone Squadron, passed away in December, 2004. He was the husband of our Assistant Safety Officer, LT Cathy Carter.

Former member **LT Eugene Carnes**, who was Deputy Commander for Cadets in Decatur, died suddenly in February, 2005. We, as Civil Air Patrol members, extend our sympathy to their families.

Wing Conference

CIVIL AIR PATROL ALABAMA WING CONFERENCE 2005

**Friday, March 18th
Saturday, March 19th
The Bradley Lecture Center**

**The Children's Hospital
1600 6th Ave South & 16th Street,
Birmingham, AL. 35233**